

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



May 25, 2001

REFUGEE COORDINATOR LETTER NO. 01-08

To: County Refugee Coordinators

This letter provides counties with proposed allocations for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 Refugee Employment Social Services (RESS) and Targeted Assistance (TA) Programs. The federal Notice of Proposed Availability of Formula Allocation Funding for FY 2001 Targeted Assistance Grants for Services to Refugees in Local Areas of High Need and the Proposed Notice of Allocations to States of FY 2001 Funds for Refugee Social Services were published in the *Federal Register* on April 27, 2001. Copies of these Notices may be accessed on the Funding Opportunities page of the Refugee Programs Branch's web site at <http://www.dss.cahwnet.gov/refugeeprogram/>.

Targeted Assistance

California's total proposed TA grant for FY 2001 is \$6,404,154. This amount represents a decrease in the amount of \$649,019 from last year's final grant. The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) determines the qualification of counties for targeted assistance once every year three years; FY 2001 represents the final year of the current three-year eligibility cycle. County allocations were determined by ORR based on the same formula as in FY 1999, updated to reflect arrivals during the five-year period from FY 1996 through FY 2000. Funds for State Administration, at the 5% maximum allowable for this program, have been deducted from the county allocations determined by ORR. The enclosed spreadsheet (Enclosure A) shows each eligible county's proposed FY 2001 TA Program allocation.

Refugee Employment Social Services

The state's proposed total RESS allocation for FY 2001 is \$11,976,195, which is an increase of \$2,420,655 from last year's final allocation of \$9,555,540. This year's allocation was determined by a formula based on the state's proportion of the national population of refugees (including Cuban/Haitian entrants, Amerasians from Vietnam, and Kurdish asylees) who had been in the U.S. three years or less as of October 1, 2000, adjusted for estimated secondary migration.

As in FYs 1999 and 2000, the California allocation includes special set-aside funds. This year's amount is \$1,063,065, for the purposes of 1) providing referral services to ensure refugee access to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), known in California as the Healthy Families Program, and other programs for low-

income working populations; and 2) providing for the hiring of interpreters and special interpreter training to enable refugees to have equal access to medical and legal services. Services provided under this set-aside are not subject to the five-year limitation and may be provided to refugees without regard to the length of time in the U.S.

In addition, for FY 2001, the state will receive a second special set-aside allocation, in the amount of \$3,670,958, for the purpose of providing outreach, referral and social services to ensure that persons granted asylum access programs to help them attain economic self-sufficiency. Services provided under this set-aside, with the exception of outreach, referral and interpretation services, may be provided only during the five-year period following the date that asylum was granted. Outreach, referral and interpretation services are not subject to the five-year limitation and may be provided to refugees and asylees regardless of the length of time in the U.S.

Counties eligible to receive RESS funds for FY 2001 are those which have received a minimum of 700 refugee arrivals over the five-year period from FY 1996 through FY 2000 (See Enclosed Arrivals Summary.) Using this threshold, nine counties will receive FY 2001 RESS funds. Because San Joaquin County's arrivals have dropped well below the threshold, that county will no longer be eligible to receive RESS funds. San Bernardino County, which received a total of 789 arrivals during the five-year period, has previously declined to participate in the program; therefore, it has not been included.

Funds for State Administration, at approximately 12.5%, a decrease from the 15% set aside from previous year's grants, have been deducted proportionately from the Standard and Set-Aside funds.

The Standard RESS funds have been allocated according to the conventional formula which is based on the number of adult refugees on aid in each eligible county who have been in the U. S. less than 60 months. Data was obtained from the most recent Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) file report (CalWORKs/RCA-ECA Group Totals < 60 Months), dated May 8, 2001.

In addition, because accurate and complete data on asylees at the county level is not currently available, the Asylee Set-Aside funds have been allocated according to this same formula. However, the Refugee Programs Branch (RPB) will request from ORR more detailed information on the number and location of asylees in California. Once this data is received and analyzed, it may be taken into account in the determination of the final allocation of the Asylees Set-Aside funds.

An amount equal to approximately 19% of California's total proposed SCHIP Outreach and Interpreter Training Set-Aside allocation, \$200,000, will be transferred to the California Department of Health Services' Refugee Health Program which will allocate those funds to county Refugee Health Programs to augment medical interpreter training, Healthy Families Program outreach efforts and to improve refugee access to medical services.

The remaining SCHIP Set-Aside funds have been allocated to eligible counties by formula. The formula applied took into account that these funds may be used to provide outreach/referral and interpreter services to all refugees, regardless of their length of residency in the U.S., and that many of the programs to which refugees are to be referred are those specifically oriented toward children and families (e.g., Healthy Families, the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC), Head Start, child care, etc.). The allocation methodology was based on the total number of refugees, adults and children, on aid in each eligible county (without regard to time in the U.S.) as a percentage of the total number in all eligible counties. Data was obtained from the MEDS files report (CalWORKs/RCA-ECA Group Totals) of May 8, 2001. The enclosed spreadsheet (Enclosure B) shows each eligible county's proposed FY 2001 RESS Program allocation, including both Set-Asides.

To ease in program planning and fiscal tracking, the Standard and Set-Asides Funds will be provided to counties in a single allocation. However, as in previous years, counties will continue to be required to include in their County Plans a description of how the Set-Aside funds will be used and to provide semi-annual narrative progress reports on the use of these funds. Also, as a reminder, when claiming reimbursement for outreach, referral and interpretation services provided with either Standard or Set-Aside funds, counties should specify on the Claim for Reimbursement (RS 52) which funds were used for these purposes. Reimbursement for these activities should be claimed using the "Other" expenditure classification with an appropriate notation (i.e., Outreach/Referral or Interpretation). Claiming in this manner will ensure that costs for such non-employment-related activities are not included in the calculation of the state's and counties' cost per employment placement ratios. Employability Services provided to asylees using either the Standard or Asylee Set-Aside funds are to be claimed against the appropriate service component expenditure classification (e.g., Employment Services, On-the-Job Training, Skills Training, etc.).

As always, counties are cautioned to use the proposed allocations for planning purposes only. Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than amounts indicated in the proposed Notices. In addition, for RESS funds, final allocations will be based on the most recent MEDS data available at the time the Final Notice is published by ORR. Because MEDS data fluctuates, final county allocations may be significantly different than proposed allocations. The RPB anticipates that ORR will publish the Final Notices of Allocations for the FY 2001 TA and RESS Programs in August.

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If you have questions regarding the proposed allocations or other information in this letter, please contact Phyllis Iwasaki, Manager of the Technical Services Bureau, at (916) 654-2387 or Brad Elftmann of her staff at (916) 654-7250.

Sincerely,

***Original signed by Phyllis Iwasaki
For Janet Sandlin on 5/25/01***

Janet Sandlin, Acting Chief
Refugee Programs Branch

Enclosures

ENCLOSURE A

**PROPOSED TARGETED ASSISTANCE (TA) FORMULA ALLOCATIONS
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2001**

\$ 6,404,154

(1) County	(2) Total California Five-Year Arrivals¹ <i>FFYs 1996 - 2000</i>	(3) ORR Allocation Based on Arrivals	(4) State Administration <i>@ 5% Maximum</i>	(5) County Allocation	(6) County Administration <i>@ 15% Maximum</i>	(7) Remainder for Services
Fresno	971	\$ 126,988	\$ 6,349	\$ 120,639	\$ 18,096	\$ 102,543
Los Angeles	13,653	\$ 1,785,506	\$ 89,275	\$ 1,696,231	\$ 254,435	\$ 1,441,796
Orange	4,748	\$ 620,904	\$ 31,045	\$ 589,859	\$ 88,479	\$ 501,380
Sacramento	10,660	\$ 1,394,099	\$ 69,705	\$ 1,324,394	\$ 198,659	\$ 1,125,735
San Diego	6,247	\$ 816,924	\$ 40,846	\$ 776,078	\$ 116,412	\$ 659,666
San Francisco	5,074	\$ 663,511	\$ 33,176	\$ 630,335	\$ 94,550	\$ 535,785
Santa Clara	6,391	\$ 835,815	\$ 41,791	\$ 794,024	\$ 119,104	\$ 674,920
Yolo	1,227	\$ 160,407	\$ 8,020	\$ 152,387	\$ 22,858	\$ 129,529
Total	48,971	\$ 6,404,154	\$ 320,207	\$ 6,083,947	\$ 912,593	\$ 5,171,354

State Administration Funds	\$ 320,207
Local Assistance Funds	\$ 6,083,947
Total California TA Award	\$ 6,404,154

Notes:

¹ Includes Refugees (including Kurdish asylees and Amerasian immigrants from Vietnam), Entrants and Havana Parolees (For FFYs 1999 and 2000, Havana Parolees are based on actual data; for previous years, parolees are prorated based on each county's proportion of the three year (1996-1998) entrant population.).

*** Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than the amounts shown here.

**PROPOSED REFUGEE EMPLOYMENT SOCIAL SERVICES (RESS) ALLOCATIONS
STANDARD AND SET-ASIDE FUNDS
FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2001**

\$ 7,242,172 Standard Funds
 \$ 1,063,065 SCHIP Outreach and Interpreter Training/Hiring Funds (Set-Aside #1)
 \$ 3,670,958 Asylee Outreach and Services Funds (Set-Aside #2)
 \$ 11,976,195 Total Proposed RESS Allocation
 \$ 1,500,000 State Administration Funds (Approx. 12.5% of State's Total Proposed RESS Allocation)
 \$ 200,000 Transfer to CDHS - Refugee Health Program for SCHIP Outreach and Interpreter Training
 \$ 10,276,195 Total Funds to be Allocated to Counties

(1) County	(3) Adult refugees receiving RCA/CalWORKs who have been in the U.S. less than 60 months ¹		(4) Standard Allocations	(5) Asylee Set-Aside Allocations	(7) Refugees (Adults and Children) receiving RCA/CalWORKs without regard to time in U.S. ¹		(8) SCHIP Outreach & Interpreter Training/Hiring Set-Aside Allocations	(9) Total County RESS Allocations (including Standard Funds and Set- Asides)	(10) County Administrative Costs Cap @ 15% Maximum	(11) Remainder for Services
	Number	% of Total			Number	% of Total				
Alameda	354	3.940%	\$ 249,603	\$ 126,520	7,887	9.44%	\$ 68,904	\$ 445,027	\$ 66,754	\$ 378,273
Fresno	233	2.593%	\$ 164,269	\$ 83,266	15,234	18.23%	\$ 133,064	\$ 380,599	\$ 57,090	\$ 323,509
Los Angeles	3,782	42.092%	\$ 2,666,570	\$ 1,351,647	15,772	18.88%	\$ 137,809	\$ 4,156,025	\$ 623,404	\$ 3,532,621
Orange	732	8.147%	\$ 516,121	\$ 261,615	9,622	11.52%	\$ 84,087	\$ 861,823	\$ 129,273	\$ 732,550
Sacramento	2,416	26.889%	\$ 1,703,446	\$ 863,453	20,589	24.64%	\$ 179,851	\$ 2,746,750	\$ 412,013	\$ 2,334,737
San Diego	560	6.233%	\$ 394,867	\$ 200,153	7,187	8.60%	\$ 62,773	\$ 657,793	\$ 98,669	\$ 559,124
San Francisco	199	2.215%	\$ 140,323	\$ 71,128	1,686	2.02%	\$ 14,744	\$ 226,195	\$ 33,929	\$ 192,266
Santa Clara	476	5.298%	\$ 335,634	\$ 170,128	4,562	5.46%	\$ 39,854	\$ 545,616	\$ 81,842	\$ 463,774
Yolo	233	2.593%	\$ 164,269	\$ 83,266	1,010	1.21%	\$ 8,832	\$ 256,367	\$ 38,455	\$ 217,912
Total	8,985	100.000%	\$ 6,335,102	\$ 3,211,176	83,549	100.00%	\$ 729,918	\$ 10,276,195	\$ 1,541,429	\$ 8,734,766

Notes:

¹ Data from Medi-Cal Eligibility Determination System (MEDS) File Reports, dated May 8, 2001.

** Final allocations are subject to federal funds availability and may be less than the amounts shown here.

REFUGEE ARRIVALS INTO CALIFORNIA COUNTIES
FFYs 1996 - 2000

COUNTY NAME	FF	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	TOTAL
ALAMEDA		475	383	546	453	353	2,210
ALPINE		-	-	-	-	-	-
AMADOR		-	-	-	-	-	-
BUTTE		98	39	13	5	2	157
CALAVERAS		-	-	-	-	-	-
COLUSA		-	-	-	-	-	-
CONTRA COSTA		106	96	100	75	95	472
DEL NORTE		-	-	-	-	-	-
EL DORADO		-	-	5	4	8	17
FRESNO		426	245	124	102	79	976
GLENN		19	9	-	-	-	28
HUMBOLDT		-	1	-	5	1	7
IMPERIAL		-	-	-	-	-	-
INYO		-	-	-	-	-	-
KERN		-	5	6	-	3	14
KINGS		1	5	-	2	-	8
LAKE		-	-	-	-	-	-
LASSEN		-	-	-	3	-	3
LOS ANGELES		3,169	2,387	1,982	2,068	3,602	13,208
MADERA		10	-	-	5	11	26
MARIN		34	32	32	43	14	155
MARIPOSA		-	-	-	-	-	-
MENDOCINO		-	-	1	-	-	1
MERCED		120	65	2	-	22	209
MODOC		-	-	-	-	-	-
MONO		-	-	-	-	-	-
MONTEREY		17	13	10	16	3	59
NAPA		2	1	-	4	-	7
NEVADA		-	-	-	-	-	-
ORANGE		1,627	744	903	834	621	4,729
PLACER		22	15	49	37	18	141
PLUMAS		-	-	-	-	-	-
RIVERSIDE		95	99	120	95	81	490
SACRAMENTO		1,944	1,983	2,864	2,197	1,791	10,779
SAN BENITO		-	-	-	-	-	-
SAN BERNARDINO		172	157	211	160	89	789
SAN DIEGO		1,531	811	627	1,353	1,083	5,405
SAN FRANCISCO		1,392	1,493	734	487	443	4,549
SAN JOAQUIN		164	72	66	27	4	333
SAN LUIS OBISPO		-	-	-	8	-	8
SAN MATEO		161	121	104	60	54	500
SANTA BARBARA		12	16	42	12	11	93
SANTA CLARA		1,759	1,264	1,319	1,122	914	6,378
SANTA CRUZ		9	3	-	-	1	13
SHASTA		6	3	-	-	-	9
SIERRA		-	-	-	-	-	-
SISKIYOU		-	-	-	-	-	-
SOLANO		12	15	10	14	8	59
SONOMA		12	22	24	12	4	74
STANISLAUS		102	118	64	108	237	629
SUTTER		3	-	-	-	-	3
TEHAMA		-	-	-	-	-	-
TULARE		13	12	-	-	-	25
TUOLUMNE		-	-	4	-	1	5
VENTURA		19	27	21	28	34	129
YOLO		197	295	378	197	166	1,233
YUBA		78	35	1	-	4	118
TOTAL		13,807	10,586	10,362	9,536	9,757	54,048

Note: Counties eligible to receive FFY 2001 RESS funds are shown as shaded.